

Name: _____

Poetry Slam Project: Write a Sonnet

Shakespearean Sonnet Requirements:

- **MUST** be 14 Lines.
- **MUST** follow the rhyme scheme ABAB CDCD EFEF GG (3 quatrains, 1 couplet)
- **MUST** be about love (or related subjects: envy, heartbreak, friendship, family, passions, favorites)
- **MUST** Must be in IAMBIC PENTAMETER (10 syllables per line, rhythmic)
- Brainstorming and Draft (this handout) due Friday, May 6 (class time this week to work on it)

I. Your **First Stanza** (ABAB) should introduce the **SPEAKER** and **AUDIENCE**, explain the **OCCASION** or situation, and make the **SUBJECT** of the poem clear.

II. Your **Second and Third Stanza** (CDCD EFEF) should develop the **TONE** of the poem... what are the feelings involved? Convey these feelings using figurative language: metaphors, similes, personification.

EX: "I love you like music needs a beat"

III. Your **Rhyming Couplet** (GG), the last two lines at the end, should resolve the poem, or provide a dramatic twist to the story. Make sure your **PURPOSE** is clear. The couplet is probably the most important two lines of the sonnet... so make them good! **THE CLINCHER!**

WRITING CRITERIA

Poem has fourteen lines	/5
Rhyme scheme is <i>abab cdcd efef gg</i>	/5
Each line has ten syllables (iambic pentameter)	/5
Structure of content is logical/makes sense; fluency of writing is strong; engaging word choice	/10
Punctuation is logical and grammatical	/5
TOTAL	<u>/30 points</u>

Sonnet 18 (Shakespeare)

*Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
And summer's lease hath all too short a date:
Sometime too hot the eye of heaven shines,
And often is his gold complexion dimm'd;
And every fair from fair sometime declines,
By chance, or nature's changing course, untrimm'd;
But thy eternal summer shall not fade
Nor lose possession of that fair thou ow'st;
Nor shall Death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st;
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.*

Sample Sonnet (Inspired by Sonnet 18):

*Shall I compare thee to a nacho chip?
Thou art more crunchy -- though without the cheese:
Rough winds do blow when I forget the dip,
For nachos are so very hard to please:
Sometimes too hot, so I must let them cool,
And often is their gold complexion dimm'd,
But only when I make them like a fool,
By chance they burn like candles yet untrimm'd;
But thy eternal crunchiness won't fade,
Nor burn like all my failed attempts to bake,
Nor shall you be like these -- so poorly made,
Which in eternal snacking I forsake.
So long as men can breathe and tongue can taste,
Your nacho-likeness will not be erased.*

*****Use Template on the back of this sheet. HAVE FUN!*****

Name: _____

Sonnet Brainstorming

Describe it using 10 words:

*Make a simile—what would
you compare your topic to?*

Write what you love:

*How does your topic make you
feel? Write 5 words*

What would you do without it?

Sonnet 18 Template - *you don't have to use these exact words, but it is a good starting point.*

Name: _____

Title:

Should I compare you to _____

You are more _____, but less _____

I feel _____ when I _____

For _____ are very _____

Sometimes too _____, sometimes too _____

And often it _____

But when I _____

It _____

But you will always be _____

And you will always be _____

Forever I _____

When I _____

So long as men can breathe and _____ can _____

Your _____ will _____

Name: _____

Write your rough draft on this sheet.

First Stanza:

Second Stanza:

Third Stanza:

Rhyming Couplet:
